

Community Goal Setting Plan - 2016

INTRODUCTION

In 2010, the City of Gretna commissioned its first Strategic Planning Process to prioritize the physical needs of the rapidly growing community. The goal was to establish community consensus on future capital improvements so the city could begin budgeting limited local resources for projects to keep Gretna moving in the right direction. In 2013, the city revisited the goals contained within the 2010 Strategic Plan, in an effort to consider accomplishments since the adoption of the Gretna Strategic Plan and to reassess new priorities for the community. This process was ultimately referred to as the 2013 Community Goal Setting Plan.

Each year since, the council and city staff have held annual Goal Setting workshops to ensure that goals accurately reflect the ongoing and evolving needs of the community and to account for progress made on previously identified goals. The outcome of these workshops have been an effective steering instrument for local decision-makers and a road map for city administration in setting budget priorities.

WORKSHOP REVIEW AND DISCUSSION

On November 23, 2015 the Gretna City Council and staff (committee) held their 2016 Community Goal Setting Workshop to discuss and prioritize various projects in and around Gretna. JEO Consulting Group, Inc. once again facilitated the evening workshop which followed an agenda geared to inform, educate and build consensus of the group. At the onset of the workshop, the group reviewed the 2015 Goal Setting Plan and the process taken, identified the accomplishments, and reviewed the comprehensive plan and its adopted goals, objectives, policies and current action plan to give a basis for the workshop. Each goal was discussed thoroughly with any current activity, recent accomplishment, and continued relevancy to the City of Gretna.

GOAL SETTING AND PRIORITIZATION

Next on the agenda, the committee was to identify any current or needed project facing Gretna of which could be formulated into a possible goal for the city. Based on the provided list by staff, the strategic planning group named 25 possible projects for the city. The 25 projects or goals were then discussed in detail and specific issues or concerns were identified. Following the discussion, the group was then asked to complete a prioritization exercise to rank their top six projects or goals for the community. These goals or projects would be referred to as first tier goals, or the highest priority needs of the community. The results of this first round voting process identified four (4) priority goals/projects.

First Tier Priority Goals/Projects

- South Sewer Extension - 8 first tier votes
- Sale of Highway 370 Property - 6 first tier votes
- New Water Line along South Highway 31 Corridor - 6 first tier votes
- Public Works Building – 6 first tier votes

With the remaining 21 projects/goals, the group was again asked to prioritize their next five goals for the community. These second tier goals were considered low to medium priorities of Goal Setting participants. Second tier goals, as identified by the group are outlined below:

Second Tier Priority Goals/Projects

- Annexation – 2 first tier votes, 6 second tier votes

- 204th Street – 3 first tier votes, 5 second tier votes
- The Fields at Gretna – Ball Fields – 2 first tier votes, 5 second tier votes
- Landscaping Medians & Entry Signs – 4 first tier votes, 5 second tier votes
- Develop an Industrial Park – 2 first tier votes, 5 second tier votes

Those goals/projects that received at least one vote during the first round or second round were placed into a third tier of priority. Although these third tier goals did not receive a consensus vote among the committee, they were still identified as important projects to the city. Third tier goals are shown below in no particular order.

Third Tier Priority Goals/Projects

- Sidewalks/Trail-Infill– 1 first tier vote, 3 second tier votes
- Improvements to Downtown Area – 2 first tier votes, 2 second tier votes
- Family Aquatic Center & Skate Park – 1 first tier vote, 1 second tier vote
- Passive Park – 1 first tier vote, 1 second tier vote
- Police Department/Station – 1 first tier vote, 1 second tier vote
- Amend Comp Plan to reflect 192nd Street Alignment - 1 first tier vote, 1 second tier vote
- The Fields at Gretna – Entry Sign, Paving, Fencing – 0 first tier votes, 1 second tier vote